



"Perhaps the greatest power of such intellectual exchange is to convert nations into peoples and to translate ideologies into human aspirations"
-- J. William Fulbright

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From Program Director

Dear Fulbrighters and Fulbright friends,

Welcome to the fall edition of the Chào Fulbright!

Please join us to congratulate our new American Fulbrighters who have arrived to start their Fulbright journey in Vietnam, and to welcome back Vietnamese Fulbrighters who have successfully completed their programs in the U.S.

We had a very busy summer with the selections of the Vietnamese Student Program and the Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA), the orientations for new U.S. Fulbrighters, and the reunion for the newly Vietnamese returnees. Our appreciation goes to all Fulbrighters who have contributed your time and efforts to the success of all the events that we have had during the summer from hosting an English Teaching Assistant (ETA), being a speaker at the orientations to taking part in the important mission of selecting the best candidates for the Fulbright Program.

In this issue, you will meet U.S. scholars, U.S. students, and ETAs who have recently completed their orientation in Hanoi, and now are teaching or

doing research at universities, colleges or gifted high schools across the country, from the Red River delta, Central Highland to the Mekong delta. You'll also meet a Vietnamese alumna who has served as a panelist for the Vietnamese Student Program for six times, and new Fulbrighters who have just joined the Fulbright community.

As always, we would like to welcome your comments, feedback as well as stories, articles and photos so that we can include them in future issues and make the newsletter better.

Enjoy your reading!

The Fulbright Vietnam Team



Fulbrighters Discuss Education CG Tarnowka



(U) Consul General Tarnowka hosted a three-part coffee series to honor the 25th Anniversary of Fulbright in Vietnam on July 21. Ten Vietnamese and two American Fulbrighters working in education engaged in an active debate on education priorities and challenges, as well as potential areas for support and partnership from the Consulate. CG Tarnowka, Cultural Affairs Officer, and USAID facilitated the discussion around core

questions: Where does Vietnam most need to develop its education system? What can the United States do to help? What ideas do you have for programs, or partnerships that we could fund/support? Participants provided ideas for possible follow-up events at the American Center and the establishment of an online Fulbright alumni group to channel future activities.

(Adapted from Hochimminute of PAS-HCMC)



Highlights

Orientation for U.S. Fulbrighters in Washington DC

June 12-16, 2017: Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), U.S. Department of State organized a Fulbright Pre-departure Orientation (PDO) for English Teaching Assistants (ETA), U.S. Scholars and U.S. Students to countries in the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region including Vietnam in Washington, D.C. Information about grant administration, health and safety, teaching methodology – theory and micro-teaching and doing research, and tips from alumni about work and life at the host institutions were provided and well-received by all grantees. Fulbright staff, Diu Vu, represented the team at this event.



In-country Orientation for ETA

August 1-25, 2017: 17 English Teaching Assistants gathered in Hanoi for one-month-orientation before heading to their host institutions. The Orientation provided the ETAs with useful and practical information that will help them maximize their time and experience in Vietnam. During the orientation, ETAs were briefed on medical, political, economic and security issues in Vietnam, as well as Vietnamese culture, history, economy and education. ETAs also received training on basic Vietnamese language, and teaching methodology from experienced instructors. ETAs had a unique opportunity to conduct micro-teaching at Hưng Yên Gifted High School and Hanoi College of Technology and Trading to get familiarized with the real teaching context in Vietnam. ETAs had a weekend homestay with a Vietnamese family to learn about Vietnamese culture and share with them the American culture. After the orientation, ETAs are confident enough to embark on their 9-month journey as teaching assistants and Fulbright cultural ambassadors at the host institutions.



Fulbright joins Hanoi-EducationUSA Graduate Program Fair

September 19, 2017: Fulbright Team joined Hanoi Education USA in their Graduate Programs Fair at the Melia Hotel. Hanh Nguyen and Hoang Ha represented Fulbright team at the Fulbright booth to promote the Program, and respond to visitors' enquiries. Hundreds of students, mid career professionals were interested in the opportunities that the Fulbright Program has to offer to the qualifying Vietnamese citizens. Dozens of students and



young teachers from Thai Nguyen and Thanh Hoa were invited to the Fair, and were introduced about the Fulbright Program.

Fulbright Visited Ly Hoang Ly's Solo Exhibition

As part of a business trip to HCMC in August 2017, PAO Molly Stephenson, Fulbright staff Nga and Hanh visited the first solo exhibition of Fulbright Ly Hoang Ly at The Factory Contemporary Arts Centre in HCMC.



The exhibition is the most comprehensive presentation of her work to date, as part of her on-going project '0395A.ĐC'. This multimedia, collaged body of work will showcase the artist's ongoing inquiry into the epic story and continuous struggle of human (im) migration, whilst highlighting the contested nature of the memorisation, documentation and circulation of history.

Ly Hoang Ly was awarded a Fulbright student grant in 2011 to do a Master of Fine Arts program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

U.S. Scholars and Students to Vietnam AY2017

David Rockwood is Professor and Director of the Construction Process Innovation Lab at the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture. He received degrees from the University of Oregon and Princeton University. Rockwood's research is focused on building materials, methods, structural systems, and urban housing. He first visited Vietnam in 2011, and has returned now many times to work on innovative housing and construction topics with students and faculty at Da Nang University of Science and Technology (DUT). In 2014, he received a Fulbright Specialist grant in which he developed a prototype housing model for Vietnamese urban migrants in collaboration with DUT students and faculty. His current work at DUT seeks to develop high thermal performance building envelopes for tropical buildings. He and his colleagues hope to find new ways to provide greater comfort to inhabitants while decreasing the need for energy-intensive space conditioning.



as the Chair of the Section on Restorative and Community Justice for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Joanne is at Foreign Trade University School of Law, where her project focuses on the use of collaborative processes in expanding Access to Justice. She is working with the Clinical Legal Education program, and teaching as part of her time at FTU.

Corey Keating received his M.M. in composition from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where he taught music theory and aural skills for several years. His music has been featured in the Melos Music, Atlantic Music Festival, and SCI concert series.

He recently received a second master's degree from Cornell University, where he is pursuing doctoral studies in composition and music technology. As a Fulbright recipient, Corey is conducting research in Vietnam relating to contemporary musical culture and practices, both acoustic and electronic, and the ways in which modern technology supports, preserves, and advances these traditions. With generous support from the National University of Arts Education, Mr. Keating has already begun successful collaborations with other musicians and educators, and he is currently preparing a series of public performances and masterclasses with students. For more information regarding upcoming events or current projects, please email Corey at audio-geometry@gmail.com or visit www.audiogeometry.com



Darryn Diuguid

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn" is the Benjamin Franklin quote that Dr. Diuguid (Dr. D.) embraces when he conducts his classes and presentations. He is serving as a Fulbright Scholar at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Education where he is completing his project "Incorporating Successful Assessment Tools and Active Learning in a Teacher Preparation Program to

Ensure a Vibrant and Well-Prepared Educator." His work at his home institution, McKendree University, includes working with student teachers, serving as the edTPA coordinator (the new summative nationwide performance assessment) and teaching Children's Literature, Adolescent Literature, and Methods of Teaching Language Arts. He is also the advisor for SIEA (education group for students) and Spectrum Alliance (campus LGBT* group).

Joanne Katz, JD, home institution is Missouri Western State University, where she has been a Professor of Legal Studies. Joanne's primary area of research and teaching has been in utilizing collaborative processes in the Legal System. She has pioneered programs and done research in Mediation and Restorative Justice, and has served



Born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, **José David Méndez** completed his studies in the Department of Biology at Georgetown University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Biology of Global Health. At Georgetown, his research combined data with quantitative tools, such as mathematical and statistical models, allowing him to gain insight into multiple biological processes, particularly those of animals across varying phylogenetic groups and sociality levels. With the Fulbright program, José will focus on conducting research to increase the understanding of dengue epidemiology in Vietnam. With the help and guidance of the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, based in the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City, José plans to study the optimal strategies in implementing the newly developed dengue vaccine in Vietnam – particularly at what age, and where, the vaccine should be distributed. As an arriving student in Vietnam, José couldn't contain his excitement or gratitude for being part of the Fulbright program.



Fulbright English Teaching Assistants AY2017



Caitlyn Nguyen is a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant at Nam Dinh Teacher's Training College. She graduated from Chapman University majoring in Integrated

Educational Studies. As an ETA, she looks forward to joining in on more activities with the community and coming to understand the people and the country that she felt she couldn't fully understand as a Vietnamese-American.

Megan Kelly is teaching at Hoàng Văn Thụ Gifted High School in Hòa Bình Province for the academic year. She is a recent graduate from

Arizona State University with degree in Global Studies and a minor in Business. Before coming to Vietnam, Megan researched media and technology in Asia and worked for the Mayor of Tempe, Arizona. She is excited to be teaching and for the opportunity to learn more about the people, culture, and language of Vietnam.



"My name is **Anvy Tran** and I am from Boston, Massachusetts. I graduated from Juniata College with a degree in International Politics and Spanish in 2017. My father was a Vietnamese refugee to the US and so I am passionate about learning the Vietnamese language and culture while representing the United States.



Sarah Hogoboom is a current Fulbright ETA at Hung Vuong Gifted High School in Viet Tri, Phu Tho. She looks forward to meeting as many

students as possible and participating in the school's English Club. Sarah also hopes to become more involved in extracurricular activities at Hung Vuong Gifted High School like pick-up soccer and volleyball games. Sarah graduated from Hamilton College with a B.A. in World Politics and Minor in History and Education.

Nicole Liên Baty is a 2016 graduate from the University of New Mexico, with a degree in Chemical Engineering and a concentration in Bioengineering. Her pursuit to teach in Vietnam, comes from wanting to cultivate a deeper understanding of her Vietnamese heritage. She is a Fulbright ETA at Nha Trang National College of Pedagogy.



Jessica Tran is from Camarillo, CA and completed her undergraduate studies at Tulane University majoring in Public Health. Jessica is the Fulbright ETA for the University of Danang (UD) where she will be teaching Medical English and English for Academic Purposes. As a Vietnamese-American, Jessica is looking forward to teaching in her parents' native country where she can learn and directly experience Vietnamese culture and life.



"Hello! My name is **Amelia Katan** and I'm very excited to be a part of a wonderful ETA cohort this year, teaching at Bac Giang Gifted High School. I graduated

from Brandeis University in 2015 with a dual major in International and Global Studies and Politics and a minor in Legal Studies. I focused on international law in post-conflict environments, spending semesters in The Hague and Northern Uganda."

"I am **Erik Mebust**, an ETA placed in Điện Biên Phủ, a historic city in Vietnam's Northwest. My placement is in Le Quy Don Gifted High School, and my goals

for this community are twofold: I want to become a part of it and I want to help it become a community of globally and socially aware citizens. I graduated from the State University of New York College at Geneseo, where I double majored in English Literature and Economics."



"I am **Sara DeVault-Feldman** and I graduated from Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. I am currently teaching English at Le Quy Don high school in Phan Rang Thap Cham City in Ninh Thuan province. I am looking forward to getting to know the students and teachers by sharing our experiences and stories. I am eager to assist students in learning English while also expanding and improving my knowledge of Vietnamese."





"Hi there! My name is **Macy Tran**, and I am a Vietnam ETA in An Giang province, teaching at Thoi Ngoc Hau Gifted High School. I recently graduated in May 2017 from Beloit College in Beloit, WI, studying Public Health, French, and Critical Identity Studies. I want to inspire my students' creativity and curiosity for the world and hopefully make an impact on their learning careers."

"Greetings from Vietnam's most wonderful city, Da Lat! Maybe I am a bit biased, but I am consumed with gratitude to be here. My name is **Carolyn Del Vecchio**, and I am



currently teaching at Thang Long Gifted High School. Before arriving in Vietnam, I completed my post-secondary education at Gustavus Adolphus College, where I studied political science. Thus far, my time in Vietnam has been an opportunity for both professional and personal growth as I navigate teaching English in a different culture."



Amy Eisenstein teaches gifted high school students at Nguyễn Đình Chiểu Gifted High School in Sa Đéc, Đồng Tháp Province, Vietnam. She graduated with a B.A. in History from Northwestern University in June 2017 with a special focus in Southeast Asian history. She is from Chicago, IL and hopes to pursue a career in education and global development. She

is grateful and excited to be teaching such hardworking, intelligent students and working with inspiring, determined teachers this year."



Rachael Greco graduated from North Park University in Chicago with a B.A. in Business and Economics (May 2017) and holds an internationally-accredited

TEFL-certification. She has been teaching English for five years. Rachael is currently teaching English at Le Thanh Tong Gifted High School in Hoi An. This is her first time in Vietnam and she's really looking forward to studying Vietnamese, helping her students feel more confident when speaking English, and making Hoi An her new home.

Jessica Obi

serves as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. She will be teaching English Speaking and Listening classes for the 2017-2018 school year. She is originally from Virginia, U.S.A. Jessica received her Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology and her Master's of Arts in Peace and Conflict Resolution. Jessica is thrilled to be teaching at Tra Vinh University and looking forward to learning and exploring more of the city in the coming school year!



Sarah Yan

serves as an English Teaching Assistant at Hung Yen Specialized High School, in



Hung Yen City. Sarah is originally from New York City, NY. She recently completed her undergraduate degree, a Bachelor of Arts in Government from Smith College, MA. Her interests include reading, writing, listening to podcasts, and discovering new, unique cafes in her city. Sarah is thrilled to spend the next 9 months in Hung Yen City, and is looking forward to getting to know her students and community.

Jeremy Dang

graduated from Georgetown University in May of 2017 with a B.A. in Government and Philosophy. He currently teaches at Kien Giang University, where he hopes to continue to develop and feed his passion for teaching. As a teacher, he is excited by the opportunities Fulbright and his university have to offer, and is thrilled to continue working and growing alongside students.



Avery Maddox

graduated from the University of Cincinnati (UC) with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering. He is passionate about education and has served as a Teaching Assistant at Chongqing University in China, plus tutoring, and mentorship experience at UC. Avery is also passionate about medical care and research and will enroll in the University of Michigan Medical Scientist Training Program upon his return from Vietnam. The Fulbright ETA program will help prepare him for his future goals; once a doctor, Avery hopes to volunteer internationally through organizations like Doctors Without Borders.





When was your last time serving the Fulbright Selection Panel? How similar and different are your feelings between the first time and the last time doing that?

I would prefer calling it the latest time serving Fulbright Selection Panel ("FSP"), hoping it is not the last one. It was just very recently, the Panel met July 2017 to discuss the applications for the academic year starting 2018.

I always feel proud of all 6 times serving the FSP. The first time brought me a lot of worries, however it was the most remarkable since for the first time in my life, I'd ever "met" such a brilliant group of young talents. I have been gradually getting so used to such feeling that every following time having received the request to serve the FSP, I have been well prepared for "meeting" outstanding people, who have not disappointed me so far.

The latest time brought me a totally new impression from the later 8x and 9x generations, who have enjoyed a more comfortable life than their seniors, and have had

6th time Serving the Fulbright Selection Panel: Honor, Hard work and Commitment

much easier access to information. Personally, I think, from now, the "race" for Fulbright Scholarship will be more competitive.

In details, what do you do in that capacity?

We, the panelists, are requested to read carefully and score the applications which have passed the screening round. We are also requested to dismiss ourselves from reviewing the applications from our acquaintances. Since I was the lecturer of Ho Chi Minh City University for 14 years, I have dismissed myself from quite some applications. The panelists, including 2 Vietnamese and 2 US Fulbrighters, will meet with the Fulbright Program to discuss the applications to select the candidates for the interview.

Are there any particular reasons why you have served the Panel for so many times? How did you make time for it?

For the first time, which was in 2008, I was asked to replace a panelist who was not able to make it to the FSP at very last minute. I consider it was the turning point in my Fulbright experience. Through 6 times

Personally, I think, because I was the lecturer for quite long time, I have been familiar with reviewing and scoring students' paper. I taught English for many years, I can judge the language capability of the applicants in terms of grammar and writing



style. I am a lawyer, I can defend any candidate that I think would deserve the scholarship, or challenge other panelists to make them defend the candidates of their choice

so that we could have finalized the best batch of grantees. Most importantly, I am a Fulbrighter. I know what a Fulbrighter is expected to perform pre and post "competition".

In practice, panelists have around 2 months to review the applications. I usually divide the applications within the 2/3 of such 2 months and target to finish such average number of applications each day. If I could not reach the daily target for any reason, I have tried to make it up the following day. The 1/3 of the reviewing time is reserved for the second review/ scan to make sure that the scoring is fair for every

candidate. I have always stayed up late at night or got up early in the morning for this extra-curriculum exercise.

Do you feel any pressure to be on the Selection Panel?

Nguyen Phuc Thuy Hien holds the record for most number of times serving the Fulbright Selection Panel for the Vietnamese Scholar and Student programs.

A visiting Fulbright scholar to Pace University in 2005, Hien did research on cultural heritage related to tourism promotion under the supervision of Prof. Robinson. Upon her return, Hien has been invited to help review the Fulbright applications on numerous occasions. Despite the heavy workload Fulbright added to her tight working schedule, Hien has undertaken this important mission with honor, commitment and dignity.

Hien earned an LL.B in Economic Law from Ho Chi Minh City University of Law, Vietnam (1996). She taught Environmental Law and Environmental Impact Assessment legislation and practice for almost 14 years before practicing as an in-house counsel at various global corporations operating in energy and construction. She is now an associate at Baker & McKenzie Vietnam.

serving the FSP, I was told that I am an appropriate choice for the position because my assessment has been always thorough and in accordance with the criteria set by Fulbright Program.

I would say it is more the matter of time management than pressure because, like other panelists, I have a full time job with a lot of assignments. I need to have a good schedule in order to complete both without any mistakes. To be honest, reading the stories by Fulbright applicants always gave me eagerness like reading interesting books, which is a should-do item in everyday routine. So, a scheduled publication could be delayed to prioritize the variety of unique writings, which could not be accessed at other time.

What would you like to see in the candidates? How can they convince you to select them?

I am a person of principles. I follow strictly the scale provided by Fulbright Program. I prefer candidates who understand well the requirements and reflect their qualification to meet such requirements. I appreciate candidates who invest time and be prudent to prepare the applications, including the 2 essays and other fill-in-the-blank forms.

I did not rate higher the candidates with higher academic result because I believe people should improve through years of experience. And I always assessed a candidate's achievement more at the time they apply for Fulbright scholarship rather than his achievement in the very long past.

When assessing an application, I would like to see how the candidate addresses and responds to the 3 questions "Why does the applicant want to study the discipline?" "Why does he need to go to the US for the study?" and "Why does he deserve a scholarship?" I also compare his essays with the studying/ extra-curriculum activities/ working experience to see how he has been building up his career path, not just for his own development, but his plan for contribution to the country as well.

How do you make sure you select the best candidates for the Program?

We, the panelists, have always made sure



that we selected the best applicants for the scholarship, and we have always tried to assume all possible situations that had made a candidate we believed is good not to have prepared well his application so that we could convince other panelists to offer him an opportunity to the interview. Some people are very good at profiling while the others may perform better through face-to-face communication. We have tried to let all potential candidates have opportunities to shine their own way.

Do you keep track of the Fulbrighters you selected over the years. Do you believe you made the right choices?

Some Fulbrighters have connected with me on social media. I am happy that they stay outstanding in any assignments they are engaged in, except that some have built their success in other countries rather than

contribution to Vietnam as they had planned in the application and during the interview. For me, it is always hard to judge if a commitment would be made at the time of application assessment. Honestly, I sometimes have empty feeling, seeing a Fulbrighter leaving Vietnam to continue their dream.

Is there any story that has impressed you the most so far?

I recalled the quote by Abraham Lincoln "Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe," when reading the story by a fresh

law graduate who accepted a tough assignment with tight deadline. I was curious of how he dealt with the matter when he had very little experience and almost no practical skills. I was surprised of how he arranged the limited time to learn new things, then to complete the assignment by the deadline. I was impressed of his can-do attitude and his teamwork spirit to assist colleagues in urgency. Those are characteristics I want to see of a leader - never to give up and to be able to inspire others, because if one thinks he will lose, he has lost! For your information, this Fulbrighter is very successful in his career as a law practitioner.

Are you an easy or difficult panel member?

I am a disciplined but reasonable panelist. I follow strictly the scale set by the Fulbright Program. So if someone thinks he is better than a Fulbright grantee, it is because he did not meet some (or all) criteria by Fulbright Program, not because he is not better than the Fulbrighters. Like the way I have been appointed many times to serve the FSP, I meet some (or maybe all) criteria set for a judge, not because I am the best Fulbrighter.

Do you have any tips or advice to share with those who will serve the Panel for the first time?

Serving the FSP for me is like attending a game. I always spend time to study the rules by Fulbright Program before doing the review and assessment. Times change, the rules may change, we should not apply the same (or old) rules for all games.

U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program

Reflecting an enduring commitment to the Asia-Pacific region, the United States has elevated its engagement across Asia as a strategic priority. A central tenet of that strategy is to work more closely with multilateral institutions such as ASEAN. The objective of the Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Initiative is to deepen people-



to-people engagement and strengthen the educational ties with the ten member nations of ASEAN, while emphasizing the importance of ASEAN. This marks the sixth year of the Initiative.

To date, 50 scholars from all 10 ASEAN Member States have been awarded scholarships to pursue studies focused on a wide range of subjects including teaching English as a second language, maritime security, climate change, health, political security, and wildlife trafficking. Vietnam has had four representatives since 2012, Ms. Nguyen Phuong Ly (2013), Ms. To Ngan Ha (2014), Ms. Le Thu Ha (2016), and Mr. Nguyen Huu Quyet (2017).

On her reflections of this program, Ms. To Ngan Ha said *"Three years ago, when I first became a Fulbrighter, I was so glad to take the opportunity to discover the dreamland. It was such a significant milestone in my academic career that helped me open my mind and my eyes to the world of academia in the US. On my return to Vietnam, I even felt more fortunate to join the alumni network with many other Fulbright scholars and graduates, every single achievement of whom is admirable."*

This year, the Fulbright US-ASEAN Visiting Scholar program 2017 marks the first time to engage both ASEAN scholars and American counterparts together in the same batch in a two-day pre-departure orientation in Jakarta, Indonesia on August 28-29, 2017.

Ms. To Ngan Ha was invited to speak at the orientation as an alumnus from Vietnam. She said she was *"genuinely amazed by the diverse backgrounds of this year's scholars who are professionals in medical, economic, educational, political and cultural fields. They brought to the event their expertise, enthusiasm, eagerness and sharing minds which I believe have inspired many young professionals and even the alumni."*

Dr. Nguyen Huu Quyet is the newest member from Vietnam to participate in the U.S.-ASEAN program. Having had a unique opportunity to join other scholars in the Jakarta Orientation, Dr. Quyet was very excited *"In the first place, that was my first-ever experience in Jakarta where I had a great chance to meet with the inspiring leaders and staff of U.S. Mission to ASEAN and ASEAN Secretariat in particular. I definitely grasped a more comprehensive picture of U.S.-ASEAN relations and the significance of Fulbright programs thanks to their stunning speeches and information-sharing in many informal talks. Such values do encourage me to play a role, to some extent, in enhancing U.S.-ASEAN mutual understanding and being an unofficial cultural ambassador to the U.S. by engaging actively not just in academic world, but also in community activities while in the U.S."*

As a lecturer from Vinh University, Dr. Quyen is keen on expanding his network for professional development and potential future collaborations. The Jakarta PDO was an opportunity for him to embrace the values of the open discussions, cultural presentations and group activities and new contacts. *"I feel truly inspired and encouraged by the connec-*

tions I experienced during just two days of the PDO. The PDO leaves me with not only unforgettable memories but, more importantly, values and networking that lay a strong inspiration for me to meet



more inspiring people whom I can learn from and to achieve my dreams no matter the obstacles," he said

Like others, Dr. Quyet is excited to embark on his journey as a Fulbright U.S.-ASEAN visiting scholar at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg *"It is still fresh on my mind how delightful and grateful I am when I was awarded the Fulbright Scholarship to be part of this great nation. Hopefully, my four-month journey in the U.S. will be filled up with many meaningful and memorable experiences."*

The U.S.-ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program is calling for application for the academic year 2018-2019. The application deadline is October 17. Contact person: Ms. Do Thu Huong (dohx@state.gov/024.3850-5100, ext.# 6225)



Board games for Vietnamese children

Nguyen Viet Hieu Linh did not originally choose arts for his career though he was endowed with a gift for drawing comics. Like many peers of his age, Linh chose a “safe career choice” to enroll for an undergraduate program in economics at the Hanoi Foreign Trade University. The program equipped him with required theoretical knowledge to start-up his own business -- designing board games for children. Linh is a pioneer in this field in Vietnam. Though he has gained some recognition, Linh always felt an urge for pursuing advanced study in the field to embrace the skills and knowledges he needs to level up his business and make bigger impact upon returning to Vietnam. As a Fulbright student, Linh is doing an MFA program in Comics at Savannah Center of Arts and Design.

TRANG CHỦ > Giáo dục Điểm chuẩn 2017 | Chung kết Olympia 2017
Tuyển sinh 2017 Kinh nghiệm sống Tin tức - Sự kiện

Chàng giảng viên 9X giành học bổng Fulbright danh giá

Thứ hai, 27/03/2017 09:10 AM GMT+7

Giảng viên đại học, đồng sáng lập một start-up làm đồ chơi dành cho trẻ em, một trong 15 ứng viên giành học bổng Fulbright năm 2016 – tất cả những chi tiết thú vị này đều hội tụ ở bạn trẻ Nguyễn Việt Hiếu Linh, sinh năm 1991.

- Sắp bị cưa chân vì viêm khớp nặng, bỗng được chữa khỏi ngoạn mục
- Bộ Ngoại giao Việt Nam bình luận việc ĐH Fulbright chọn ông Bob Kerrey làm chủ tịch
- Chủ tịch ĐH Fulbright VN và chuyện hối hận về cái ác khi không còn đủ sức*

Tốt nghiệp chuyên ngành Kinh tế đối ngoại tiếng Trung, Trường ĐH Ngoại thương Hà Nội, ngay sau khi ra trường, **Nguyễn Việt Hiếu Linh** trở thành giảng viên bộ môn Kinh tế quốc tế và Marketing của ĐH Tài chính và Quản trị kinh doanh – một trường đại học thuộc Bộ Tài chính có trụ sở ở Hưng Yên.



Nguyễn Việt Hiếu Linh và những sản phẩm đồ chơi “board game” mà nhóm của em đã làm ra. (Ảnh: NVCC)

Linh nói, trở thành giảng viên là một quyết định khá đối nghịch với tính cách của em. “Bản thân em tính cách kín, không cảm thấy thoải mái khi giao tiếp với quá nhiều người. Nhưng em nghĩ càng sợ điều gì thì

entertainment, but a source of role models that can help children shape the way they see life. Because stories own such paramount influence, I thought, why not create one with a focus on education? And so three years ago, I threw myself into this idea full throttle by creating an exemplary figure for children, namely Mato (the little orange guy in the picture). Through the stories of his adventure, I aspire to nurture in the future generation a stronger sense of self development and of community.

How has it been going for the past three years, you may ask. It is like playing Pináta without guidance. I had to keep



would try my best to reciprocate.

The moment I am writing these last lines is the end of the Gateway program, an orientation event where I get to meet Fulbrighters from more than thirty other countries. It was truly more than a wonderful experience, to mingle with a cohort of individuals from different cultures and all walks of life. We talked, resonated with each other's sense of community and joyfully found out our perspective was simply a small part of one vast kaleidoscope. It was an auspicious start of my Fulbright journey, and yet I am still ablaze with excitement, knowing that there are still a lot of eye-opening experiences waiting ahead.

“Pikachu! I choose you!” That was my 6-year-old cousin, shouting the catchphrase of his favorite cartoon. Usually I would shout along, for I am also a devoted fan of that show. From an early age, I have been fascinated by children's visual stories, ranging from manga and Franco-Belgian comics to Disney movies. Those stories gave me the joy in discovering the world, the courage to express my true self, and one strong belief that one day I can become a six-pack superhero shooting eye laser. Those virtues, except for the last one, remained as I grew up, and they gave me a profound view towards stories. Their potential impact lie more than a means of

moving forward and swinging in every possible direction with a slight hope that I may strike some sweet result. Sometimes I scored some Skittles, yet sometimes I hit the bee hive. Nonetheless, after all the trials and errors, I realized my passion to pursue storytelling still stayed strong amidst the most desperate lapses. Above all, I felt the urge to elevate my visual narrative skill in order to succeed in the long term. Then Fulbright came to me just like a perfect match on Tinder. Fulbright gives me the chance to strengthen through an advanced degree, and in turn I find myself a good fit to contribute to the fulfilment of the program's ideals. Being accepted by Fulbright is an honor, and a lifelong support that I

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BÀI MỚI CẬP NHẬT

Vì sao Australia là “đất màu” cho startup châu Á?

Vì sao người lui tuổi lại dễ thành công?

Thị trường thời trang nam giới: Mỏ vàng tại Việt Nam

DNSG Online Từ những chuyện thiện nguyện cùng bạn bè, Nguyễn Việt Hiếu Linh, sinh viên ngành Kinh tế đối ngoại (Đại học Ngoại thương), nhận ra những hình ảnh minh họa trên sách báo, truyện tranh hay được sử dụng kém theo những lần dấy kỳ năng sống luôn tác động rất tích cực đến nhận thức của trẻ.

Độc E-paper

Và đó cũng là lý do khiến anh quyết định khởi nghiệp ở lĩnh vực sáng tạo đồ chơi cho trẻ em với dự án mang tên “Mắt trố”, một nhân vật do chính anh sáng tạo, lấy cảm hứng từ nhân vật Pinocchio.

Alumni Corner: Re-union of Returning Scholars & Students

19 Fulbright alumni including scholars, students, and FLTA gathered in Dong Hoi, Quang Binh in a re-union hosted by Fulbright Program for the newly returning grantees on September 23 & 24. As a tradition, Fulbrighters joined an exchange session to inspire the faculty members and

students of a local university. This year, the group visited Quang Binh University and had a chance to inspire the teachers and students here to think about studying in the U.S. and applying for one of the Fulbright Vietnam Programs. The break-out sessions brought the audience closer to the Fulbright-

ers who share the same background and area of interest.

Highlights of the re-union were the personal presentations of Fulbrighters on their experiences in the U.S., their reflections on the takeaways from the Fulbright journey and future plans. They also discussed how to overcome reverse culture shock and re-adapt to their work and life in Vietnam. They also came up with clever ideas for small grants offered by State to put their U.S. experience to good use.



Reflections from My Fulbright Experience in Vietnam

(Photo credit: Huu Nghi International School-Hai Phong)

My name is **Elizabeth Barrett-Zahn**, K-5 Science Facilitator, Columbus Elementary School, New Rochelle, N.Y. My recent Fulbright experience in Vietnam, as a Fulbright Distinguished teacher at Huu Nghi School, has been a defining moment in my professional pathway from teacher to an educational practitioner. With three weeks of collaborating, providing professional development for teachers, delivering demonstrations, observing and evaluating lessons, running mini-workshops for members of Huu Nghi School and Hai Phong Private University, as well as leading a highly attended parent workshop; I am struck with the feeling of camaraderie of spirit as I worked with these dedicated, passionate educators in these schools in Vietnam.

During my years of teaching, I have gone from considering myself as a teacher to an educator, and more recently, I have begun to consider myself a practitioner. This title of educational practitioner embodies the realization that we are involved in a prac-



As part of this Fulbright collaboration, I knew I was in a place with kindred spirits after meeting Professor Nghi of Hai Phong Private University and hearing him speak about his desires and passions for

School in New York and Huu Nghi School in Hai Phong. We will continue our collegial conversations about problem-based, hands-on lesson development and delivery; teaching strategies for classroom management; as well as incorporating differentiated instruction through more open-ended, inquiry-based learning that allows for student learning differences.

For me, the world has become a little smaller and a great deal more connected as I have had the opportunity to live and learn



tice of education, every day, with every child. To practice one's craft is to continually look for improvements, understandings, and connections. When faced with struggles or difficulties in a practice, one must dig deeper to find solutions and alternatives rather than focus only on problems. The Fulbright Vietnam experience has expanded my limits, helped solidify my philosophies, challenged my practices and created, for me, a deeper understanding of how global communities are struggling to find solutions to worldwide human issues.

century skills of innovation, creativity, collaboration, communication, persistence, and critical thinking. These life skills are essential for all in our fast-paced, technologically enhanced and connected 4.0 world.

This educational collaboration between me, as a Fulbrighter, and Huu Nghi School is just the beginning of our continued work together. Moving forward, we have plans to continue the steps towards the development of an interactive STEM program for both the students of Columbus Elementary



delivering a comprehensive and diverse educational experience rich with the appreciation of art, music, and creativity. Providing differentiated, hands-on, minds-on learning will strengthen much needed 21st-

in another culture and as I have worked side by side with educators from Vietnam. These important Fulbright tenets of building global competence and sharing best educational practices internationally have been fully realized and I will "pay it forward" by keeping the lines of communication open with Huu Nghi and Hai Phong Private University as we continue to collaborate and share ideas of practice in our missions to challenge and prepare our children for the future.

Thank you to the entire Fulbright organization, here in the United States and in Vietnam, for this most rewarding experience. I am so proud and excited to call myself a "Fulbrighter" and I hope to live up to this honor as I continue as an educational practitioner.

I have a quote by Nelson Henderson that helps me sum up teaching and life: **"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit."**



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